

<b>Rating Element</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class C</b>	<b>Rating (A,B, or C)</b>
<b>Fire Mitigation Ordinances, Laws, or Regulations in Place</b>	Have adopted local ordinances or codes requiring fire safe landscaping, building and planning. Fire department actively participates in planning process.	Have voluntary ordinances or codes requiring fire safe landscaping and building practices. Fire department participates in planning process.	No local codes, laws or ordinances requiring fire safe building landscaping or planning processes.	B
<b>Fire Department Equipment</b>	Good supply of structure and wildland fire apparatus and miscellaneous specialty equipment.	Smaller supply of fire apparatus in fairly good repair with some specialty equipment.	Minimum amount of fire apparatus, which is old and in need of repair. None or little specialty equipment.	C
<b>Fire Department Training and Experience</b>	Large, fully paid fire department with personnel that meet NFPA or NWCG training requirements, are experienced in wildland fire, and have adequate equipment.	Mixed fire department. Some paid and some volunteer personnel. Limited experience, training and equipment to fight wildland fire.	Small, all volunteer fire department. Limited training, experience and budget with regular turnover of personnel. Do not meet NFPA or NWCG standards.	C
<b>Community Fire Safe Efforts and programs already in place</b>	Organized and active groups (Fire Dept.) providing educational materials and programs for their community.	Limited interest and participation in educational programs. Fire department does some prevention and public education.	No interest of participation in educational programs. No prevention/education efforts by fire department.	B
<b>Community support and attitudes</b>	Actively supports urban interface plans and actions.	Some participation in urban interface plans and actions.	Opposes urban interface plans and efforts.	C

**A(1)=Class A low fire hazard assessment rating**

**B(2)=Class B medium fire hazard assessment rating**

**C(3)=Class C high fire hazard assessment rating**

## **7.0 Technical Information to Support Action Plan**

This section evaluates important wildland fire-related issues and their relationship to existing conditions throughout Lincoln County. Existing conditions in Lincoln County were determined by: (1) interviewing local, state, and federal officials and county residents; (2) driving the main roads within each fire protection district; (3) determining fuel loads adjacent to roads and determining distance of maintenance needs; (4) reviewing bridge weight limits and needs, and road classifications for accessibility by large firefighting equipment such as tenders and pump trucks; (5) photographing representative structures and determining defensible space, proximity of fire hydrants and other water sources, and adherence to local building codes; and (6) a Wildland Fire Hazard Assessment, Structural Assessment, and Community Assessment has been completed within each fire district.

Structures were selected based upon: (a) their proximity to the wildland-urban interface, and (b) exhibiting a fire hazard or safety concern such as adjacent to highly flammable sources of flammable material. Structures are defined as homes and other buildings (e.g., barns, garages, or maintenance buildings) with economic value to the landowner, or historic buildings.

## **8.0 Environmental Effects**

Environmental effects associated with wildfire to the physical, biological, and social resources include: air quality, water quality, soil erosion and displacement, sediment delivery to streams and reservoirs, cultural resources, threatened and endangered plant species, noxious weeds, fish, sensitive animal species, wildlife habitat, riparian areas, existing wetlands, Native American concerns, socioeconomic impacts such as BLM grazing allotments, subdivisions and isolated parcels, rural communities, and wilderness study areas.

An intense wildfire of short duration may have the greatest impact or alteration in soil characteristics to the landscape (Graham 2003). In Lincoln County these alterations may include: (1) loss of organic matter on soil surface, (2) reduced ground cover decreasing water infiltration and the potential for increased surface runoff, (3) the formation of pedestals, rills, and gullies, and (4) infestation of noxious or exotic weeds.

Noxious weed problems associated with Fuels Reduction projects is a legitimate concern. Upon implementation of Fuels Reduction projects associated with the 2001-2002 Community At Risk program, all noxious weed control (if necessary) was turned over to the local County Weed Control Board with funding support from the Community At Risk program. Local County Weed Control Boards possess the necessary expertise and technical equipment to mitigate noxious weed problems associated with Fuels Reduction projects.

## **9.0 Mitigation**

This section discusses fuels mitigation and needs and associated costs for Lincoln County. The environmental effects and public education program are included under one section and apply to all FPD's in Lincoln County.

## **10.0 Mitigation Summary for Lincoln County**

The following mitigation recommendations are intended to supplement Table 27., the Summary of Conditions and Recommendations for Lincoln County.

Fuels Mitigation – Hazardous fuel buildup resulting in wildland fires represents the primary risk to homeowners, businesses, and state and federal facilities located outside city limits. Fuel break locations are identified in this section based on recommendations provided by each fire chief, input from county commissioners and BLM. The size of the fuel breaks required and associated costs to construct the fuel breaks will vary, depending on the fuels present, distance, and dimensions of each fuel break. (See Budget Spreadsheet Appendix D)

The National and Idaho Fire Plan address rehabilitation and restoration of burned areas and fire-